

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

FEBRUARY 24, 2004

Fee-For-Service mental health contract providers have expressed frustration about the unorganized technical assistance the Department of Mental Health (DMH) has given during the transition of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as well as the providers concern of non-payment for Medi-Cal services rendered to patients. Other complaints include, DMH technical assistance staff providing inaccurate information, unrealistic due dates, and constant changes to client information forms.

DMH has concurred that there are problems in the way technical assistance is handled due to the informational changes given to DMH by State and Federal agencies as it relates to HIPAA compliance.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Mental Health to:

1. Work with County Counsel and the Auditor Controller's Office to develop a provisional payment schedule for Fee-For-Service providers until the Department of Mental Health's internal system is fully functional with a report back to the Board in 14 days.

2. Establish a Technical Assistance Workgroup that includes the Internal Services Department and Fee-For-Service providers to create a plan to improve technical assistance and effective communications about Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act compliance, billing and payment processes.

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MDA:rkrc